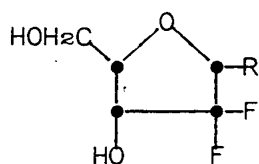
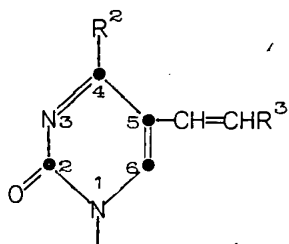
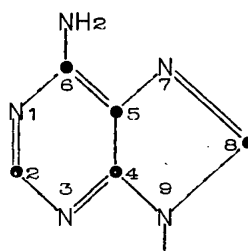
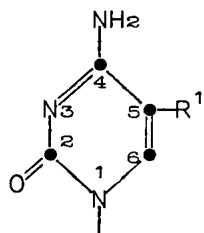
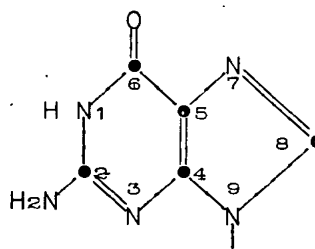
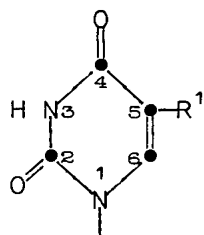


I claim:

1. A nucleoside of the formula



wherein R is a base ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ ~~one of the formulas~~



PS
PO
L
B
wherein

R^1 is hydrogen, methyl, bromo, fluoro, chloro or iodo;

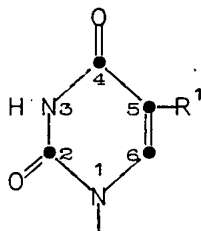
R^2 is hydroxy ~~or amino~~;

5 R^3 is hydrogen, bromo, chloro or iodo.

2. A nucleoside of claim 1, wherein the carbohydrate moiety is in the ribose form.

3. A nucleoside of claim 2 wherein the base is of the formula

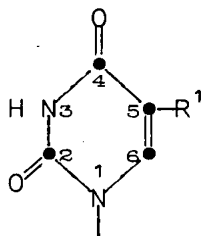
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4. A nucleoside of claim 1 wherein the base is of the formula

20

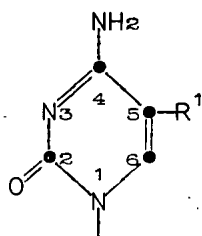


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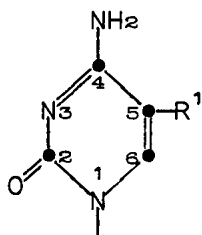
5. A nucleoside of claim 4 wherein R^1 is methyl.

6. A nucleoside of claim 3 wherein R^1 is methyl.

7. A nucleoside of claim 1 wherein the base is of the formula



10 8. A nucleoside of claim 2 wherein the base is of the formula



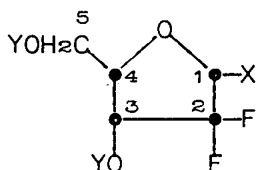
20 9. A nucleoside of claim 7 wherein R¹ is iodo.

10. A nucleoside of claim 8 wherein R¹ is iodo.

11. A method of treating viral infections in mammals comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient therefor.

13. A difluoro-desoxy carbohydrate of the formula



10 wherein X is hydroxy or a leaving group; and the Y groups independently are hydrogen or hydroxy-protecting groups.

14. A carbohydrate of claim 13 which is in the ribose form.

15 15. A carbohydrate of claim 14 wherein X is hydroxy.

16. A carbohydrate of claim 13 wherein X is hydroxy.

17. A carbohydrate of claim 15 wherein Y is hydrogen.

20 18. A carbohydrate of claim 16 wherein Y is hydrogen.

19. A carbohydrate of claim 13 wherein X is a sulfonate leaving group.

25 20. A carbohydrate of claim 14 wherein X is a sulfonate leaving group.

21. A carbohydrate of claim 19 wherein Y is a silyl hydroxy-protecting group.

22. A carbohydrate of claim 20 wherein Y is a silyl hydroxy-protecting group.

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